



MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN
Saturday, FEBRUARY 11, 2012

MINUTES

Special Meeting – Retreat
9:00am – 1:00pm

Members Present: K. Grunwald (staff), K. Krider (staff), J. Woodmansee (staff), G. Bent, J. Stoughton, M. LaPlaca, R. LeClerc, J. Goldman, J. Higham, V. Fry, E. Soffer Roberts, S. Anderson, P. Braithwaite, C. Guerreri, MJ Newman, and J. Suedmeyer

Regrets: E. Tullman, Y. Kim

Guest Present: Phyllis Rozansky

<i>ITEM</i>	<i>DISCUSSION</i>	<i>OUTCOME</i>
Call to Order	J. Stoughton called the meeting to order at 9:08am.	
Getting Started	P. Rozansky provided a brief history of her training and work here in CT.	
Taking Stock of MAC	<p>Members were asked to list what is important to them. Responses are listed in Appendix 1 entitled “Beliefs and Values.”</p> <p>P. Rozansky request members list their assets, skills and knowledge. Responses are listed in the attached Asset Map (Appendix 2).</p> <p>Members discussed the differences between “stakeholders” and “partners”, “stakeholders” being those who have an interest/investment in the result and “partners” being those are actively committed to taking action. P. Rozansky reminded members that both stakeholders and partners can be individuals and groups.</p> <p>P. Rozansky reviewed the Theory of Aligned Action. She noted that each collaborative should strive for high action and high alignment but that often collaboratives can have high action but not be aligned.</p>	K. Grunwald proposes that MAC support the list of values and beliefs. Unanimous decision in favor of support.
MAC’s Indicators	P. Rozansky reviewed with the collaborative what we know about Mansfield, there are 1,602 children under the age of 18m and that there are 735 aged 0-5, 586 aged 5-9 and, 865 aged 10-14. The numbers were then broken down further by school district; 262 children in Southeast, 202 in Goodwin and, 260 in	

	<p>Vinton.</p> <p>With regards to free and reduced lunch, district wide 23.7% of children qualify and we know that there is a relationship between poverty and literacy.</p> <p>The key facts about children are then placed on the dashboard.</p> <p>P. Rozansky led the group in a discussion regarding the status of MAC's indicators.</p> <p>The collaborative agreed that prenatal care was no longer a viable indicator, that the Health team would take another look at BMI at the K level and then again at 7th grade, and that the grade 3 physical fitness test would be a secondary indicator to BMI. The Health Team will also be looking at asthma rates.</p> <p>The collaborative agreed that the K Assessment indicator would be kept, as well as the 3rd graders reading at or above CMT goal. Members also discussed the potential indicator of birth to 3 and that use of library cards would be one way to measure because the use of library cards can be easily tracked. Successful learners agreed to look further into the library cards.</p> <p>Childhood poverty and transportation were also discussed as a potential indicators because they can affects the entire results statement.</p> <p>Members participated in a discussion regarding the ownership of the indicators and it was determined that MAC as a whole owns them.</p>	
Assessing the Strength of the Strategies to Improve the Indicators	<p>Members discussed the structure of the three (3) teams and the idea of turning the successful learners, health and community connectedness teams into strategies and the current strategies into actions.</p> <p>With regarding to actions, P. Rozansky suggested that MAC convert the strategies into actions and that MAC as a whole decide on the strategies while each team propose implementations for those actions.</p> <p>Also discussed is the concept of MAC setting 4 to 5 questions which can be asked and answered regarding ideas and how they relate back to strategies. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is and how is this connected to another strategy? • What is our Performance Measure and timeline? • When will we come back to the table with an answer? and • Who will be doing the work?" 	

MAC's Measures of Success	It was suggested that the Chair of the meeting conduct a "Check In" at the end of the meeting around how well MAC did.	
Making a Contribution to MAC's Results	<p>Accountability and commitments were discussed. Members were asked to list their 2012 Commitments to MAC. A list is attached as Appendix 1.</p> <p>Members discussed that the level of work done outside of the monthly meeting needs to be defined and owned and that members need to be held accountable for that work.</p>	
Take Aways and Actions to Take	Members revealed what worked during the retreat and what could have worked better. Included in the "What Worked" section was: the table groups, voting on decisions as they came up; the room and its set-up, accountability; and, the light bulb. Included in the "What could have been done Better" category included" increase attendance and a shift in work groups.	
Adjournment	<p>The special meeting adjourned at 12:45pm.</p> <p>Next MAC Meeting, Wednesday, March 7, 2012, 5:00pm – 6:30pm for Team Meetings and 6:30pm – 7:30pm for full meeting.</p> <p>Next Executive Council meeting on Wednesday, March 14, 2012, 1:15pm – 2:45pm at Town Hall in Conference Room B.</p> <p>Agenda topics: Please send to Kathleen at kriderk@mansfieldct.org</p> <p>Respectfully submitted, Jillene B. Woodmansee Assistant to the Early Childhood Services Coordinator</p>	

"All Mansfield Children ages birth through 8 years old are healthy, successful learners connected to the community."



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Appendix 1

BELIEFS/VALUES

- 1. BE AN EFFECTIVE RESOURCE**
- 2. CLEAR FOCUS – COHESIVE**
- 3. BE AN ADVOCATE FOR CHILDREN**
- 4. SPEAKING IN A UNIFIED VOICE - OUTSIDE**
 - A. Inside – RBA 3 terms (indicators, performance measures, strategies)**
- 5. PARTNERING WITH OTHERS**
 - A. Membership is representative of Community**
- 6. HAVING A STRONG IDENTITY**
- 7. BE MORE ASSESTIVE IN WHAT WE STAND FOR (RELATES TO #6)**
- 8. BE GROUNDNG IN BELIEFS/VALUES**
- 9. BACK UP WORDS WITH ACTIONS**
- 10. HAVING AN IMPACT/BEING SUCCESSFUL**
- 11. BEING VALUED, RESPECTED FOR OUR WORK, CONTRIBUTIONS**
- 12. REGULAR ATTENDENCE/ACTIVE PARTICIPATION**
 - A. positive movement forward**



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Appendix 2

ASSET MAP

MAC Member	Commitment
Kevin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Speaking • Change Management • Budget Management
Judy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library connections/literacy • Public speaking • I do puppets!
Patty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I ♥ food! • Mother of young children with <u>a lot</u> of passion for helping others
Jillene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization • Connection to the Community of parents with young children
Sara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy and Enthusiasm
Rachel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educator • School connection • Policy • Legal knowledge
Jess	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elem Educator • Bilingual • Organization • Design • Sewing/Quilting

ASSET MAP – Page 2

Gloria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Speaking • Sewing • TIME • Faith Community Connections • I like to learn new things (workshop junkie)
Mary Jane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood Education • Creative & Spontaneous • Facilitator/Instructor
Esther	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baking & Cooking • Many connections to parents in the area • Enthusiasm • Speak some Russian • Love <u>silly</u> public work (camp background)
Vicki	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCONN Connection • Presentation Skills (I actually like it!)
Mark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training/Presentations • Board of Education • Town Government Connections • FOOD • I like to be <u>effective</u>.
Kathleen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total “Townie” • Out loud thinker • Not afraid
Cindy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funder Perspective • RBA Knowledge
Jane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to Research • UCONN Connections
Julie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funder Perspective • Connections with other (outside area) resources and people



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Appendix 3

MEMBERS 2012 COMMITMENT TO MAC

MAC Member	Commitment
Gloria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend Regularly
Esther	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend Regularly • Be a positive, motivating and thoughtful member
Julie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend Regularly • Smile when there is adversity
Jess	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend Regularly • Work on being a better leader/facilitator • Be a better listener
Sara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend Regularly • Gain a greater understanding • Of MAC and how it works
Vicki	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend Regularly • Work outside of regular meetings as necessary
Kevin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be accountable/hold others accountable



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Appendix 4

CURRENT INDICATORS

HEALTH TEAM

1. % OF CHILDREN WITH HEALTHY BMI SCORES (K AND 7TH GRADE)
2. % OF CHILDREN PASSING ALL 4 PHYSICAL FITNESS TESTS IN GRADE 4 (Secondary to BMI)

SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS

1. % OF CHILDREN SCORING LEVEL 3 OR ABOVE ON K ASSESSMENT
2. % OF CHILDREN RADING AT OR ABOVE STATE GOAL ON CMT

COMMUNITY CONNECTEDNESS

1. % OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS FEELING CONNECTED TO THE COMMUNITY (TBD)